

**METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INTELLIGENT PROMPT CONTROL IN A  
MULTIMODAL SOFTWARE APPLICATION**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

Dialog manager and methods for integrating multi-modal data capture device inputs or speech recognition inputs with speech output capabilities. A work flow description is extracted from objects in a graphical user interface and a 5 multi-modal user interface is defined. A dialog engine synchronizes the flow of information, in accordance with the work flow description, between input/output devices and an application. The prompts for inputting data, which are output via a plurality of peripheral devices, are controlled in an intelligent manner by the dialog engine based on the input state of the peripheral devices. Functionality 10 such as barge-in, prompt-holdoff, priority prompts, and talk-ahead is provided.